

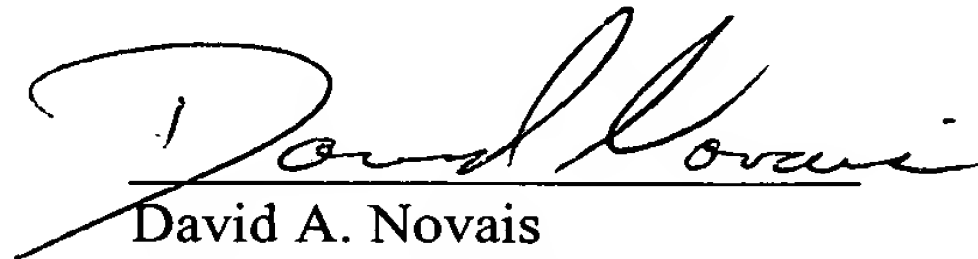
REMARKS

The present 312 amendment includes minor changes to the specification. More specifically, the 312 amendment updates the status of the cited copending application on page 1.

Applicants note that the 312 amendment does not raise new issues and does not alter the scope of the claims.

Accordingly, entry of the amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David A. Novais", is written over a horizontal line.

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